

Appl. No. 10/773,812
Amdt. dated March 12, 2008
Reply to Office Action of December 18, 2007

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes a change to Figure 3. This sheet replaces the original sheet that included Figure 3.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action mailed December 18, 2007 (hereinafter, "Office Action"), claims 11 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101. Claims 1-28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b). Claims 1, 11, and 20 have been amended. Claims 2, 12, and 21 have been canceled.

Applicants respectfully respond to the Office Action.

I. Claims 11 and 20 Rejected Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

The Examiner rejected claims 11 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter in that the claims allegedly directed to "a computer program by itself." Office Action at p. 2. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

With reference to claim 11, as amended, the client device comprises a computing device having a processor and memory.¹ *See, e.g.*, Application at ¶ 39 ("computing devices that construct and despool an imaging job to either an imaging device or server, will be referred to as client computing devices") and Figure 1 (shows a computing device 102 that includes a processor 103 and memory 108). This amendment clearly takes this claim outside the scope of a "computer program by itself."

As suggested by the examiner, the term "for" has been removed from the preamble of claim 20. These claims are thus in a condition for allowance.

II. Claims 1-28 Rejected Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Examiner rejected claims 1-28 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Publication No. 2002/0042884 to Wu et al (hereinafter, "Wu"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

"A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." MPEP § 2131 (citing Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987)). "The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim." Id. (citing Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co., 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989)). In addition, "the reference must be enabling and describe the applicant's claimed invention sufficiently to

¹ By reference to the specification, the "client device" was clearly a hardware device. This amendment merely makes explicit that which was implicit.

have placed it in possession of a person of ordinary skill in the field of the invention." In re Paulsen, 31 USPQ2d 1671, 1673 (Fed. Cir. 1994).

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims at issue are patentably distinct from Wu. Wu does not disclose all of the limitations in these claims. More specifically, as amended, independent claims 1, 11, and 20 each require that the auditing function include "extracting and storing reduced content information from the document." This limitation is not disclosed by Wu.

Independent claims 1, 11, and 20, have been amended to include the limitations of dependent claims 2, 12, and 21, respectively, in simplified form.² While Wu discloses the creation of an auditing trail, it does not disclose use of reduced content information within the auditing trail and mentions only, for example, capturing "status reports" for the auditing trail. Wu at ¶ 181. Further, Paragraph 189 of Wu refers to a "small, or compressed" "sensitive part" of the client software that performs functions (such as "watermark generating functions" and "access control"). Wu at ¶¶ 184-191. The "sensitive part" is not reduced document content, as claimed in the Application.³ *Id.* This "small, or compressed" sensitive part is thus also not related to an auditing trail in any way, again as required by the claims 1, 11, and 20. Wu thus fails to disclose the limitations of claims 1, 11, and 20.

Independent claims 1, 11, and 20, as amended, also each require "encrypting content of the imaging job and not encrypting non-content such that a downstream non-content dependent process will still properly process the imaging job."⁴ This limitation is not disclosed by Wu. While Wu discloses encrypting a document, it does not disclose "not encrypting non-content such that a downstream non-content dependent process will still properly process the imaging job". The Office Action cited Wu ¶ 38 as disclosing this claim subject matter. However, this paragraph of Wu only appears to disclose encrypting a document. This does not disclose "not encrypting non-content such that a downstream non-content dependent process will still properly

² Limitations of the dependent claims have been described in simplified form and are fully supported by the specification in Figure 5 and its accompanying text at ¶¶ 82-85 of the Application.

³ This point is further supported by the fact that Wu states that "the sensitive part can also be installed in the client's machine together with the basic part of the client software." Wu at ¶ 189. The sensitive part clearly refers to installable software, rather than document content.

⁴ This amendment as fully supported by the specification and drawings by at least the following: ¶ 87 and Figures 6-8.

process the imaging job” as required by the claims 1, 11, and 20. Wu thus fails to disclose the limitations of claims 1, 11, and 20.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 11, and 20 are patentably distinct from Wu. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1, 11, and 20 be withdrawn.

The remaining claims depend either directly or indirectly from claims 1, 11, and 20. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of the remaining claims be withdrawn for at least the same reasons as those presented above in connection with claims 1, 11, and 20.

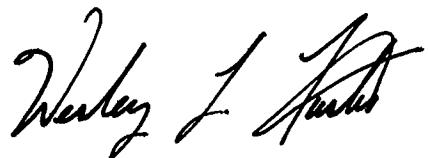
III. Drawings

A substitute drawing for Figure 3 is being filed herewith. An arrow in between blocks 310 and 312 was not visible or reproduced on the drawing as filed. Figure 3 has been amended to correct this drawing inaccuracy.

IV. Conclusion

Applicants respectfully assert that all pending claims are patentably distinct from the cited references, and request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If there are any remaining issues preventing allowance of the pending claims that may be clarified by telephone, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



/Wesley L. Austin/

Wesley L. Austin
Reg. No. 42,273
Attorney for Applicant

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MADSON & AUSTIN
Gateway Tower West
15 West South Temple, Suite 900
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101
Telephone: (801) 537-1700

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APPENDIX

(One sheet of amended drawings for amended Figure 3)